

# Super English



Level 7

Unit 1

Lesson 1

Coffee Culture



# The Epic Journey of Coffee



Read the text and answer the questions.

Coffee wasn't always the **trendy**, everywhere-you-look drink we know today. Believe it or not, its origins go way back to a surprising place: the hills of Ethiopia. Legend has it, a curious goat herder named Kaldi noticed his goats acting wild after **munching** on some bright red berries. These weren't just any berries—they were coffee cherries! Kaldi shared his discovery with some monks, who found that the beans helped them stay awake during late-night prayers. Little did they know, this was the beginning of coffee's **epic** journey around the globe.



1. What do the words in bold mean?
2. What do you think will happen next?

# Coffee Shops are Born



Read the text and answer the questions.

Why do you think coffeehouses became popular places for people to socialize and discuss ideas?



From Ethiopia, coffee **hit** the Arabian Peninsula by the 15th century, where it became a **big deal**. Soon, “qahveh khaneh,” or coffeehouses, popped up in cities like Mecca and Cairo. These weren’t just spots to grab a drink—they were **buzzing** with people chatting, debating ideas, and even doing business **deals**. Sound familiar? Yep, coffeehouses were basically the original coffee shops but with a lot more serious conversations.

What do the words in bold mean?

# Coffee's Arrival in Europe



Read the text and answer the questions.

When coffee finally made it to Europe in the 1600s, people didn't know what to make of it. Some called it the “**bitter invention of Satan,**” but coffee's popularity spread fast anyway. Soon, coffeehouses were everywhere, especially in England. They became known as “**penny universities,**” where, for the price of a cup, anyone could join in on intellectual discussions and swap big ideas. This tradition of coffee-fueled conversation would **carry on for centuries,** helping to make coffee a true symbol of creativity and community.



1. Explain the phrases in bold.
2. Would you like to hang out in the coffee shops at this time? Why or why not?

# Idioms



Match the idioms to their meanings.

1. Wake up and smell the coffee
2. Cup of joe
3. Perk up
4. Coffee break
5. Spill the beans
6. Full of beans

- A short break from work, usually to drink coffee and relax a bit.
- To reveal a secret or share information that was supposed to be kept private.
- To feel more awake or energetic, often used when someone needs a boost.
- A person who is very energetic and lively, often full of enthusiasm.
- An informal way to say “coffee,” often referring to a regular, simple coffee.
- Face reality or pay attention to what’s happening around you.

# Java Takes Over America



Read the text and answer the questions.

Coffee didn't stay in Europe for long—it sailed right over to the American colonies. Tea was **all the rage** back then, but in 1773, the Boston Tea Party changed everything. Americans dumped British tea into the harbor as a protest, and soon, coffee became the **go-to drink**. It wasn't just a drink anymore; it was **patriotic**! By the 18th century, coffeehouses in cities like New York, Boston, and Philadelphia were the place to be for anyone wanting to talk business, politics, or the latest **gossip**.



1. What do the words in bold mean?
2. What jump started the popularity of coffee in America?

# Wartime Instant Coffee



Read the text and answer the questions.

Do you think it was a good idea to give soldiers coffee? Why or Why not?



Fast-forward to the 20th century, and coffee **took on a whole new role** during the World Wars. Soldiers needed quick caffeine boosts on the battlefield, so instant coffee **took off**. Companies like Nescafé developed coffee that could be made just by adding water, and it quickly became a must-have in soldier rations. After the wars, soldiers brought their love of instant coffee back home, helping make it a **household staple**.

What do the words in bold mean?

# Coffee's Arrival in Europe



Read the text and answer the questions.

Today, coffee is more than just a drink—it's an economic **powerhouse**. Just think of the local café where everyone gathers, or the billions of dollars poured into the industry every year. From Colombian farms to big-name coffee chains, coffee connects people across the globe.

On the **consumer** side, coffee is a giant moneymaker. Cafés, specialty coffee shops, and even giant chains like Starbucks and Dunkin' have created millions of jobs, making coffee a **true economic force**.



1. Explain the phrases in bold.
2. Are there many coffee shops in your neighborhood? What else can you buy at one?



# Coffee Shop - Role-Play



Take turns being the clerk and the customer.

## Conversation 1: Basic Order

**Clerk:** Hi! Welcome to Brewed Awakening! What can I get started for you today?

Customer: Hi! I'd like a medium latte, please.

**Clerk:** Sure thing! Would you like any flavors added, like vanilla or caramel?

Customer: Hmm, let's go with caramel, please.

**Clerk:** Great choice! Would you like it hot or iced?

Customer: Hot, please.

**Clerk:** Perfect. Anything else for you today?

Customer: No, that's all, thanks.

**Clerk:** Alright, your total is \$4.50. Your latte will be ready in just a minute!

# Coffee Culture - Strange Brews



Read about 'coffee culture' in different places.

## Black Ivory Coffee

- **Origin:** Thailand
- **What's strange:** Black Ivory Coffee is made using beans that have been eaten by elephants. After the beans pass through the elephant's **digestive system**, they are collected, cleaned, and roasted. This process is believed to give the coffee a unique, rich flavor with less bitterness.
- **Fun fact:** Civet coffee in Indonesia and Jacu Bird Coffee in Brazil are also made from coffee beans that have been eaten by animals.



1. What is the digestive system?
2. Why do you think people will pay more for this coffee? Would you try it?

# Design Your Perfect Coffee Shop



Describe how you would design your coffee shop.

**Activity:** Imagine your ideal coffee shop! Describe its atmosphere, menu, and any unique features to your teacher.

**Prompts to Think About:**

- **Atmosphere:** What would the space feel like? Cozy, modern, or lively? What type of customer would you want to attract?
- **Menu:** What drinks would you serve? Think about classics like espresso or cappuccino, unique flavors, teas, or even seasonal specialties. Would you also offer pastries or snacks available?
- **Special Events or Themes:** Would your coffee shop have a specific theme, such as a book café, art gallery, or venue for live music? Would there be events, like open mic nights or game evenings?

# Vocabulary Practice - Synonyms



Find other ways to describe coffee-related words.

**Activity:** Try thinking of synonyms or similar phrases for each term. This will help you get comfortable with different ways to talk about these settings and activities in English.

## Examples:

- **Coffee shop:** Café, coffee bar
- **Barista:** Server, worker
- **Mug:** Cup, drinkware

## Your Turn!

- **To-go**
- **Menu**
- **Order**
- **Customer**
- **Counter**
- **Cash register**

- **Discussion Practice:**  
After brainstorming synonyms, try using them in sentences. For example, “The customer placed an order at the counter,” or “The café has a selection of different drinks on the menu.”

# See you next time!



GOOD  
BYE!

